



WOMEN, MEDICAID AND SOCIAL SECURITY

- In 2005 the total number of females in Nebraska eligible for Medicaid was 110,193 ◇
- Factors that make Social Security extremely important to many women:
 - Women find themselves at retirement age with fewer assets and smaller pensions ♀
 - Time out of working for unpaid child care and care-giving nets no additional pensions
 - Only about 1/3 of women received pension benefits in 1994, as opposed to over 1/2 of all men ♀
 - Women typically outlive men ♀
 - The average life expectancy for a man is almost 75 years of age. The average life expectancy for a women is nearly 80 years of age ♦
- In Nebraska there are 155,190 women who depend on Social Security benefits ♥
 - This is One in Every Four women (24%) of women in the State ♥
- Of Nebraskans 65 and older, 59% are elderly women who depend on Social Security benefits ♥
 - Nationally, 2/3 of those 65 and older rely on rely on Social Security for a majority of their income.
 - 1/3 completely depend on Social Security as their sole source of income ☼
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- *Without Social Security benefits almost 58% of elderly women in Nebraska would live below the federal poverty line ♥*
- In Nebraska 89 out of 93 counties are classified as rural counties ■
 - Within the rural areas of Nebraska 75,645 women who are 65 and older receive Social Security benefits ■
 - This is over 9% of the total rural population ■

References and Sources

- ◇ Nebraska Medicaid FY 2005 Average Annual Eligibles by Age and Gender
- ♀ National Women's Law Center: Women and Social Security Reform: What's at Stake?
 - ◆ <http://www.efmoody.com/estate/lifeexpectancy.html>
- ♥ National Women's Law Center: Social Security: Women, Children, and the States
- ☼ Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: Top ten facts on Social Security's 70th anniversary
 - Institute for America's Future